[2nd January 1954

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" I do not find it here. If necessary I shall find it out and give the information to the hon. Member."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI:—" Is it a fact, Sir, that these films are recommended for purchase through correspondence with the owners and not taken straight by the Central Film Library? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" We get the applications and then we decide whether to purchase the film or not. If we are not satisfied with the quality of a film, we reject it, and the film owner takes it back. As a matter of fact I find that we have not rejected many. Out of 311 films, 309 films have been purchased, and in respect of two films we could not agree to the terms of the film owner and, therefore, we did not give our consent for the purchase, and so the owner took them back."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI:—" Are the Government aware of the fact, Sir, that even in case of new films depreciation has been charged to the extent of 30 or 40 per cent? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" The film is carefully examined by the Special Officer, who is technically qualified for the same. I find that even though some are marked new, those films have already been used. That is why depreciation is charged."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI:—" May I know, Sir, whether an account is being taken of the number of runs a film has gone through before charging depreciation? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" That is being taken into account, Sir."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI:—" Can the Government say that all the films placed by private exhibitors in deposit with the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, have been sold and that there is no stock with the Government for sale? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" According to the information on hand, I find that out of 311 films offered for sale by private owners 309 have been purchased and the two that were rejected were taken back by the private owners of those films."

Orders to private parties for coach or body building of Government buses.

* 53 *Q.*—SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries, Labour and Co-operation, be pleased to state whether the Government have placed any order for coach or body building of Government buses to private parties, and if so, the names of the parties and the size of the order?

2nd January 1954]

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" Yes, Sir. Messrs. Simpson & Co., Ltd., were entrusted with the work of building bodies on ten of the chasses newly purchased by Government in 1953, at a cost not exceeding Rs. 10,600 for each body."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—" May I know why the Government when they have their own coach-building factory at Chrompet entrusted this work to a private agency?"

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" Sir, when the tramways stopped working, the Government Transport had a huge task on hand to cope with the large rush. We had to carry more passenger traffic. We were very badly in need of 35 buses, to cope with the additional traffic. The Coach building factory at Chrompet could finish body building works for 25 buses only at the quickest possible time. Therefore for the building of bodies for the remaining ten chassis, the work had to be entrusted to a private firm. Messrs. Simpson & Co., who had a lot of experience in body-building, were entrusted with the work of building the bodies of ten chassis in the quickest possible time."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—" What is the loss to the Government by entrusting this work to the private concern?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" I do not think we have incurred any loss. According to my information the quotation of Messrs. Simpson & Co. for body-building in respect of a single bus was Rs. 10,600 including Rs. 750 for painting. I do not think we have lost. Even if there had been any loss, it was worthwhile incurring inasmuch as we had the buses ready in time and also we could make up that loss from the increased passenger traffic, due to the closure of the tramways."

SRI MOHAMMAD RAZA KHAN:—" May I know how it works out comparatively both in the matter of cost and durability in respect of body-building for these chassis by the department and by a private agency?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" The estimate by the Transport Commissioner, for the building of a single chassis, is somewhere in the neighbourhood of Rs. 10,500 if the work is done at the Government Coach Building Factory at Chromepet. The estimate of Messrs. Simpson & Co. works out for the building of body for a single chassis to Rs. 10,600, *including* Rs. 750 for painting. I think comparatively there is not much of a difference between the two."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—" Have not Messrs. Simpson & Co. earned a high reputation as body-builders for buses?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" I think the hon. Member has more information on this matter than I have. I presume he knows more than what I know in this matter."